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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Michael J. Hurkes

Group Art Unit: 1732

Serial No. 10/790,483

Examiner:

Filed: 03/01/2004

Title: SERVO SPEED CONTROL IN CUTTING
OF COMPOSITE LUMBER

Mail Stop Preliminary Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAIL TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith is/are: Express Mail Transmittal (1 page); Preliminary Amendment (3 pages); and Return Postcard.


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Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 8, 2004

by


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(Docket No. 34431)

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Examiner:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace original paragraph [019] with the following marked up paragraph.

[019] Next, the cooled composite lumber is cut at the servo-controlled cutter 18 and stacked in connection with drop table 20. The servo-controlled cutter 18 can be any kind of servo-operated mechanism for cutting hardened composite materials. In a presently preferred embodiment, the servo-controlled cutter is a servo saw manufactured by Custom Downstream Systems of St-Laurent, Canada, model no. CSS 4.5-8 6.5-13. Alternatively, the servo-controlled cutter can be a servo-controlled fly knife, which employs a metal blade to cut the hardened extrudate 21. A servo-controlled fly knife can be used to cut extrudates of small cross sectional area, such as, for example small moldings.